

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05263 191050Z

46

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SUBJECT: HONECKER AND MIELKE PRAISE THE MINISTRY FOR STATE
SECURITY ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

1. SUMMARY: SPEECHES BY HONECKER AND MIELKE
AT THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY FOR
STATE SECURITY BROUGHT OUT THE USUAL PRAISE FOR THE
SOVIET UNION AND THE THEME OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH
THE SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS OF OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.
SOME EMPHASIS WAS PLACED UPON INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF
THE GDR SECURITY SERVICE WHO SERVE IN LONELY AND
SELF-EFFACING ASSIGNMENTS ABROAD IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THE SECURITY AND INNER ORDER OF EAST GERMANY. THE
CELEBRATION WAS PRECEDED BY THE AWARDING OF
DECORATIONS AND PROMOTION OF SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE
STATE SECURITY SERVICE WHOSE NAMES WERE NOT MADE
PUBLIC. TO WHAT EXTENT THE EMPHASIS UPON THE GDR'S
FOREIGN AGENTS IS IMPORTANT IS HARD TO ASSESS. IN
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 05263 191050Z

GENERAL, SPEECHES LIKE THOSE OF HONECKER AND MIELKE

AT THIS CELEBRATION HAVE A DIRECT BEARING UPON THE
INTERNAL SITUATION IN THE GDR AND ARE ONLY
SECONDARILY IMPORTANT TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. END
SUMMARY:

2. THE FRIEDRICHSTADT-PALAST IN EAST BERLIN WAS THE
SITE ON FEB. 7 OF OFFICIAL CEREMONIES COMMEMORATING
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE GDR'S
MINISTRY FOR STATE SECURITY. FIRST SECRETARY HONECKER
AND LT. GENERAL ERICH MIELKE, MINISTER FOR STATE
SECURITY, ADDRESSED THE MEETING. IN ADDITION TO
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SED POLITBUERO, THE SOVIET
AMBASSADOR IN BERLIN JEFREMOV AND THE SOVIET COMMANDER
OF THE RUSSIAN FORCES IN EAST GERMANY, GENERAL J.
IVANOV, ALSO ATTENDED. JUST PRIOR TO THIS MEETING,
HONECKER MADE A NUMBER OF AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF THE
STATE SECURITY ORGANIZATION AND PROMOTED SEVERAL
PEOPLE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION FROM COLONEL AND
BRIGADIER TO HIGHER POSITIONS. THE NAMES OF THOSE
SO HONORED DID NOT APPEAR ANYWHERE IN THE EAST GERMAN
PRESS.

3. MIELKE FORESHADOWED HIS REMARKS AT THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WITH AN ARTICLE IN THE
SED'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO SOCIALIST THEORY
"EINHEIT" ON JAN 28, 1975. IN THE "EINHEIT" ARTICLE,
MIELKE SPOKE AT SOME LENGTH OF THE NEED TO INFILTRATE
FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS WHICH WERE BENT UPON ATTACKING
THE GDR FROM WITHIN. HE TALKED ABOUT THE NEED TO
DISCOVER ENEMY PLANS IN ORDER TO BLUNT ANY SUCH
ATTACKS ON THE GDR THROUGH THE USE OF SPIES AND
ESPIONAGE IN GENERAL, INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE.
MIELKE CLAIMED THAT SUCH ACTIVITY WAS NECESSARY IN

ORDER TO PRESERVE THE UNITY OF THE SOVIALIST SOCIETY
BEING DEVELOPED IN THE GDR AND TO PROMOTE PEACE.

4. IN HIS ADDRESS ON FEB. 7. MIELKE SEVERAL TIMES
PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY FOR
STATE SECURITY AND TO THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WHICH
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PAGE 03 BERLIN 05263 191050Z

EXISTS BETWEEN THE EAST GERMAN ORGANIZATION AND ITS
SOVIET COUNTERPART. HE MENTIONED ALSO THE COLLA-
BORATION WHICH EXISTS WITH OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES
IN THIS PARTICULAR FIELD. AT THE END OF HIS ADDRESS,
MIELKE ASKED THE LARGE AUDIENCE, COMPOSED OF MEMBERS
OF THE MINISTRY, TO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO SUPPORT OF
THE PARTY, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DECOMCRATIC
REPUBLIC AND THE PROTECTION OF THE WORKING CLASS.

THE AUDIENCE, WHICH NEUES DEUTSCHLAND RECORDED AS
"THOUSANDS", STOOD TO TAKE A PLEDGE TO THOSE GOALS.

5. THE PORTION OF THE HONECKER ADDRESS AT THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN NEUES
DEUTSCHLAND AND PICKED UP IN VARIOUS WEST GERMAN
NEWSPAPERS, EMPHASIZES HONECKER'S PRAISE FOR THOSE
MEMBERS OF THE STATE SECURITY ORGANIZATION WHO SELFLESS-
LY DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO THE WORK OF PROTECTING EAST
GERMAN SOCIETY FROM ADVERSE OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES.
HONECKER HAD PARTICULAR PRAISE FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO
HE SAID WERE OFTEN FAR DISTANT FROM THEIR SOCIALIST HOME-
LAND AND WHO CARRIED OUT HEROIC DEEDS ALONE IN ORDER TO
PROTECT THEIR COUNTRY. THEY WERE IN EFFECT, HE STATED,
CHARGED WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY TASK OF
FIGHTING ANY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY IN ORDER
TO GUARANTEE THE SECURITY AND ORDER OF THE THE GERMAN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

6. COMMENT: THE IMPORTANT CELEBRATIONS IN EAST
GERMANY, LIKE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE SECURITY
SERVICE, HAVE IN THE PAST BEEN OCCASIONS FOR ENUNCIATION
OF SED POLICY. THE EMPHASIS UPON SPIES AND ESPIONAGE
IN THE ADDRESSES OF BOTH MIELKE AND HONECKER WOULD SEEM
TO IMPLY THAT EAST GERMANS OVERSEAS
WILL IN FUTURE BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN DISCOVERING AND
REPORTING BACK INDICATIONS OF ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY
CONSIDER DETRIMENTAL TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF
EAST GERMANY. THE REFERENCE TO EAST GERMAN AGENTS
ABROAD WAS PICKED UP BY THE WEST GERMAN PRESS AS A
DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE GUILLAUME AFFAIR AND TO
GUILLAUME'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY. THE STATE SECURITY ORGANIZATION IN EAST
GERMANY, HOWEVER, HAS FOR A LONG TIME BEEN CONSIDERED
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PAGE 04 BERLIN 05263 191050Z

TO HAVE AS ITS PARAMOUNT FUNCTION THE CONTROL AND SUPER-
VISION OF ALL POLICE MATTERS WITHIN EAST GERMANY ITSELF.
AGAIN, AS IS OFTEN THE CASE, HONECKER'S WORDS CAN BE
CONSIDERED TO HAVE DIRECT APPLICATIONS WITHIN EAST
GERMANY AND ONLY SECONDARILY OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY,
EVEN THOUGH THE EMPHASIS WOULD SEEM TO BE UPON EAST
GERMAN ACTIVITIES ABROAD.

7. THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ALSO PRESENTED AN
OCCASION TO CONSIDER THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONECKER
AND MIELKE. THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT
ON THIS SUBJECT. THE FIRST CONSIDERS MIELKE TO BE A
PARTICULARLY GOOD FRIEND OF HONECKER'S IN THAT
HONECKER HAD MIELKE APPOINTED AS A CANDIDATE MEMBER
OF THE POLITBURO SHORTLY AFTER HONECKER'S ACCESSION

TO POWER IN 1971. ANOTHER SCHOOL SEES THE 1971 APPOINTMENT AS AN INDICATION THAT HONECKER WISHED MIELKE TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY IN THE VERY IMPORTANT FIELD OF STATE SECURITY. HOLDERS OF THIS LATTER OPINION DO NOT BELIEVE THAT HONECKER AND MIELKE ARE CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDS BUT THAT THEY WORK TOGETHER IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN EACH OTHER. IN SUPPORT OF THIS PARTICULAR SCHOOL, MIELKE'S BACKGROUND DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT HE HAS EVER WORKED CLOSELY WITH HONECKER PRIOR TO 1971 BUT THAT HE HAS BEEN A LONG AND TRIED MEMBER OF THE SED WITH HIS OWN BACKING WITHIN THE PARTY.

8. THE STATE SECURITY ORGANIZATION REMAINS AN ENIGMA WRAPPED UP IN A MYSTERY IN THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE NOT LISTED PUBLICLY NOR IS ANY BUDGET FOR THE MINISTRY PUBLISHED ALONG WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET. MEMBERS OF THE STATE SECURITY ORGANIZATION CARRY MILITARY RANK AS MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCES INSIDE EAST GERMANY. THE ORGANIZATION IS CONTROLLED AND UN BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SED AND, IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, BY THE 23 MEMBERS OF THE POLITBUERO. THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AFFORDED THE MFS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MODEST PUBLIC ACCLAMATION WHICH OCCURS ONLY EVERY FIVE YEARS. COOPER

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